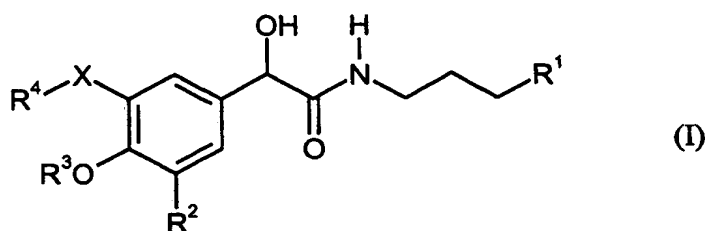


IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A flavouring composition comprising a mandelic acid alkylamide of general formula (I)



wherein

~~X represents a single bond or an oxygen atom;~~

~~and~~

~~R¹ represents a linear or branched alkyl residue with 1 to 20 carbon atoms or a linear or branched alkenyl residue with 2 to 20 carbon atoms;~~

~~and~~

~~R² represents a hydrogen atom, a hydroxy group or an O-R⁵ group;~~

~~and~~

~~R³, R⁴ and R⁵, independently of one another, represent hydrogen or a lower alkyl residue or a lower alkenyl residue;~~

~~or~~

~~R³ and R⁴ together represent a CR⁶R⁷ group;~~

~~and R⁶ and R⁷, independently of one another, represent hydrogen or lower alkyl residues or lower alkenyl residues;~~

~~and stereoisomers or mixtures thereof.~~

R¹ represents a linear or branched alkyl residue with 1 to 20 carbon atoms or a linear or branched alkenyl residue with 2 to 20 carbon atoms and

R² represents a hydrogen atom,

and, either

X represents a single bond,

R³ a lower alkyl residue or a lower alkenyl residue and

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R⁴ hydrogen,

or

X represents an oxygen atom,

R³ hydrogen, and

R⁴ a lower alkyl residue or a lower alkenyl residue,

or

X represents an oxygen atom,

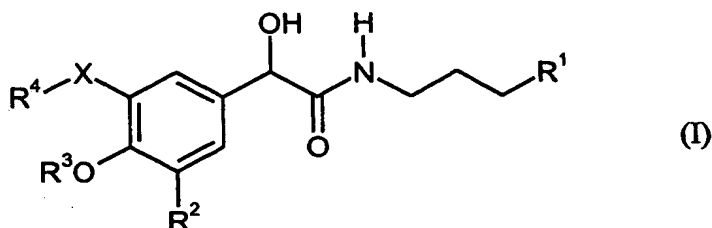
R³ a lower alkyl residue or a lower alkenyl residue, and

R⁴ hydrogen,

and stereoisomers or mixtures thereof with the exception that X represents an oxygen atom, R¹ 1-pentyl, R² and R³ hydrogen and R⁴ methyl.

2. (Currently Amended) A flavouring composition comprising
- ~~2-(4-hydroxyphenyl)-2-hydroxy-N-heptylacetamide,~~
- ~~2-(4-hydroxyphenyl)-2-hydroxy-N-octylacetamide,~~
- ~~2-(4-hydroxyphenyl)-2-hydroxy-N-nonylacetamide,~~
- 2-(4-methoxyphenyl)-2-hydroxy-N-heptylacetamide,
- 2-(4-methoxyphenyl)-2-hydroxy-N-octylacetamide,
- 2-(4-methoxyphenyl)-2-hydroxy-N-nonylacetamide,
- 2-(3,4-dihydroxyphenyl)-2-hydroxy-N-octylacetamide,
- 2-(3-hydroxy-4-methoxyphenyl)-2-hydroxy-N-heptylacetamide,
- 2-(3-hydroxy-4-methoxyphenyl)-2-hydroxy-N-octylacetamide,
- 2-(3-hydroxy-4-methoxyphenyl)-2-hydroxy-N-nonylacetamide,
- 2-(4-hydroxy-3-methoxyphenyl)-2-hydroxy-N-heptylacetamide,
- 2-(4-hydroxy-3-methoxyphenyl)-2-hydroxy-N-octylacetamide,
- 2-(4-hydroxy-3-methoxyphenyl)-2-hydroxy-N-nonylacetamide,
- and
- 2-(4-hydroxy-3-methoxyphenyl)-2-hydroxy-N-(7-methyl-1-octyl)acetamide
- and stereoisomers or mixtures thereof.

3. (Previously Presented) A flavouring composition according to claim 1 exhibiting a pungent flavour or a flavour with a heat-generating effect.
4. (Currently Amended) A ~~preparation~~ composition consumed for nutrition or pleasure comprising a flavouring composition according to claim 1.
5. (Previously Presented) An oral hygiene composition comprising a flavouring composition according to claim 1.
6. (Currently Amended) ~~Preparations~~ A composition for use in nutrition, oral hygiene or consumed for pleasure containing mandelic acid alkylamides of general formula (I)



wherein

~~X~~ represents a single bond or an oxygen atom,

and

~~R¹~~ represents a linear or branched alkyl residue with 1 to 20 carbon atoms or a linear or branched alkenyl residue with 2 to 20 carbon atoms,

and

~~R²~~ represents a hydrogen atom, a hydroxy group or an ~~O-R⁵~~ group,

and

~~R³, R⁴ and R⁵, independently of one another, represent hydrogen or a lower alkyl residue or a lower alkenyl residue,~~

or

~~R³ and R⁴ together represent a -CR⁶R⁷ group,~~

and

~~R⁶ and R⁷, independently of one another, represent hydrogen or lower alkyl residues or lower alkenyl residues, and stereoisomers or mixtures thereof.~~

R¹ represents a linear or branched alkyl residue with 1 to 20 carbon atoms or a linear or branched alkenyl residue with 2 to 20 carbon atoms and

R² represents a hydrogen atom,
and, either

X represents a single bond,

R³ a lower alkyl residue or a lower alkenyl residue and

R⁴ hydrogen,

or

X represents an oxygen atom,

R³ hydrogen, and

R⁴ a lower alkyl residue or a lower alkenyl residue,

or

X represents an oxygen atom,

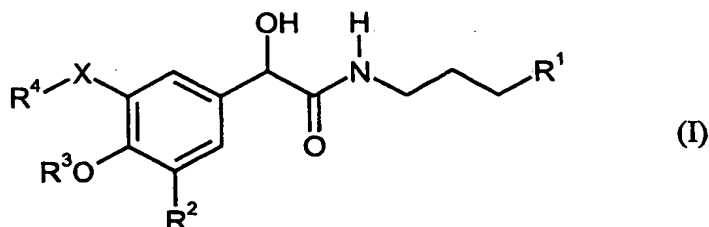
R³ a lower alkyl residue or a lower alkenyl residue, and

R⁴ hydrogen,

and stereoisomers or mixtures thereof.

7. (Currently Amended) ~~Preparations~~ A composition according to claim 6, containing at least one other pungent-tasting or heat-generating substance.
8. (Currently Amended) ~~Preparations~~ A composition according to claim 6, containing at least one pungent-tasting plant extract.
9. (Currently Amended) ~~Preparations~~ A composition according to claim 6, containing at least one other pungent-tasting or heat-generating substance and at least one pungent-tasting plant extract.

10. (Currently Amended) ~~Preparations~~ A composition according to claim 6 in the form of a semi-finished product.
11. (Currently Amended) ~~Preparations~~ A composition according to claim 6 in the form of odour, flavour and taste compositions and seasoning mixes.
12. (Previously Presented) Mandelic acid alkylamide flavouring compounds of general formula (I)



wherein

R¹ represents a linear or branched alkyl residue with 1 to 20 carbon atoms or a linear or branched alkenyl residue with 2 to 20 carbon atoms and

R² represents a hydrogen atom,
and, either

X represents a single bond,

R³ a lower alkyl residue or a lower alkenyl residue and

R⁴ hydrogen,

or

X represents an oxygen atom,

R³ hydrogen, and

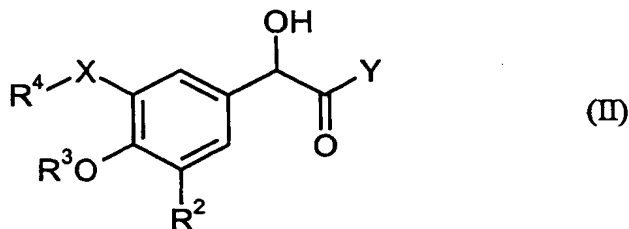
R⁴ a lower alkyl residue or a lower alkenyl residue,

or

X represents an oxygen atom,

R³ a lower alkyl residue or a lower alkenyl residue, and

- R^4 hydrogen,
and stereoisomers or mixtures thereof with the exception that X represents an oxygen atom, R^1 1-pentyl, R^2 and R^3 hydrogen and R^4 methyl.
13. (Currently Amended) ~~2-(4-Hydroxyphenyl)-2-hydroxy-N-heptylacetamide,~~
~~2-(4-hydroxyphenyl)-2-hydroxy-N-octylacetamide,~~
~~2-(4-hydroxyphenyl)-2-hydroxy-N-nonylacetamide,~~
2-(4-methoxyphenyl)-2-hydroxy-N-heptylacetamide,
2-(4-methoxyphenyl)-2-hydroxy-N-octylacetamide,
2-(4-methoxyphenyl)-2-hydroxy-N-nonylacetamide,
2-(3-hydroxy-4-methoxyphenyl)-2-hydroxy-N-heptylacetamide,
2-(3-hydroxy-4-methoxyphenyl)-2-hydroxy-N-octylacetamide
2-(3-hydroxy-4-methoxyphenyl)-2-hydroxy-N-nonylacetamide,
2-(4-hydroxy-3-methoxyphenyl)-2-hydroxy-N-heptylacetamide,
2-(4-hydroxy-3-methoxyphenyl)-2-hydroxy-N-nonylacetamide,
and
2-(4-hydroxy-3-methoxyphenyl)-2-hydroxy-N-(7-methyl-1-octyl)acetamide.
14. (Previously Presented) A process for producing the flavouring compounds according to claim 12, characterised in that a mandelic acid of general formula II



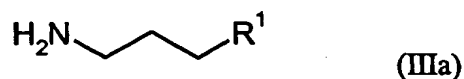
wherein

X, R^2 , R^3 and R^4 have the meaning given in claim 12,

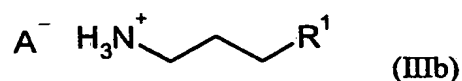
and

Y represents an activated nucleofuge, or derivatives, the OH groups of which are protected with protective groups,

is reacted with an alkylamine of general formula (IIIa)

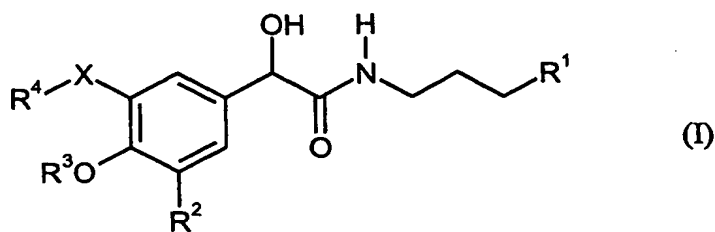


or an alkylammonium salt of general formula (IIIb)



wherein R^1 has the meaning given above and A^- denotes an inorganic or organic anion.

15. (Cancelled)
16. (Currently Amended) Cosmetic or dermatological ~~preparations~~ compositions containing mandelic acid alkylamides of general formula (I)



wherein

~~X represents a single bond or an oxygen atom~~
and

~~R¹ represents a linear or branched alkyl residue with 1 to 20 carbon atoms or a linear or branched alkenyl residue with 2 to 20 carbon atoms~~
and

~~R² represents a hydrogen atom, a hydroxy group or an O-R⁵ group~~
and

~~R³, R⁴ and R⁵, independently of one another, represent hydrogen or a lower alkyl residue or a lower alkenyl residue, or R³ and R⁴ together represent a CR⁶R⁷-group~~

~~and~~

~~R⁶ and R⁷, independently of one another, represent hydrogen or lower alkyl residues or lower alkenyl residues,~~

~~and stereoisomers or mixtures thereof.~~

R¹ represents a linear or branched alkyl residue with 1 to 20 carbon atoms or a linear or branched alkenyl residue with 2 to 20 carbon atoms and

R² represents a hydrogen atom,
and, either

X represents a single bond,

R³ a lower alkyl residue or a lower alkenyl residue and

R⁴ hydrogen,

or

X represents an oxygen atom,

R³ hydrogen, and

R⁴ a lower alkyl residue or a lower alkenyl residue,

or

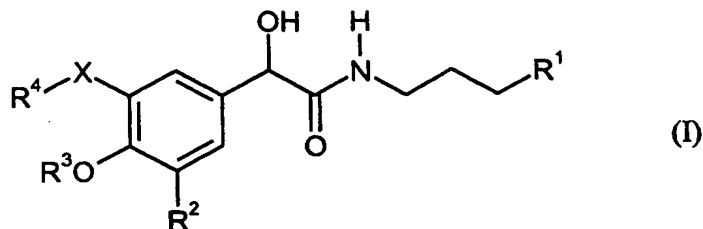
X represents an oxygen atom,

R³ a lower alkyl residue or a lower alkenyl residue, and

R⁴ hydrogen,

and stereoisomers or mixtures thereof.

17. (New) A method of imparting a flavor to a composition comprising adding a flavoring compound to the composition in an amount effect to impart a flavor, said flavoring compound comprising a mandelic acid alkylamide of general formula (I)



wherein

X represents a single bond or an oxygen atom,
and

R¹ represents a linear or branched alkyl residue with 1 to 20 carbon atoms or a linear or branched alkenyl residue with 2 to 20 carbon atoms,
and

R² represents a hydrogen atom, a hydroxy group or an O-R⁵ group,
and

R³, R⁴ and R⁵, independently of one another, represent hydrogen or a lower alkyl residue or a lower alkenyl residue,
or

R³ and R⁴ together represent a -CR⁶R⁷- group,

and R⁶ and R⁷, independently of one another, represent hydrogen or lower alkyl residues or lower alkenyl residues,

and stereoisomers or mixtures thereof.

18. (New) The method of claim 17, wherein the flavoring is at least one selected from the group consisting of

2-(4-methoxyphenyl)-2-hydroxy-N-heptylacetamide,
2-(4-methoxyphenyl)-2-hydroxy-N-octylacetamide,
2-(4-methoxyphenyl)-2-hydroxy-N-nonylacetamide,
2-(3,4-dihydroxyphenyl)-2-hydroxy-N-octylacetamide,
2-(3-hydroxy-4-methoxyphenyl)-2-hydroxy-N-heptylacetamide,
2-(3-hydroxy-4-methoxyphenyl)-2-hydroxy-N-octylacetamide,
2-(3-hydroxy-4-methoxyphenyl)-2-hydroxy-N-nonylacetamide,
2-(4-hydroxy-3-methoxyphenyl)-2-hydroxy-N-heptylacetamide,

2-(4-hydroxy-3-methoxyphenyl)-2-hydroxy-N-octylacetamide,
2-(4-hydroxy-3-methoxyphenyl)-2-hydroxy-N-nonylacetamide,
and
2-(4-hydroxy-3-methoxyphenyl)-2-hydroxy-N-(7-methyl-1-octyl)acetamide

and stereoisomers or mixtures thereof.

19. (New) The method of claim 17 wherein the flavoring compound exhibits a pungent flavor or a flavor with a heat-generating effect.

20. (New) The method claim 17, wherein

R¹ represents a linear or branched alkyl residue with 1 to 20 carbon atoms or a linear or branched alkenyl residue with 2 to 20 carbon atoms and

R² represents a hydrogen atom,

and, either

X represents a single bond,

R³ a lower alkyl residue or a lower alkenyl residue and

R⁴ hydrogen,

or

X represents an oxygen atom,

R³ hydrogen, and

R⁴ a lower alkyl residue or a lower alkenyl residue,

or

X represents an oxygen atom,

R³ a lower alkyl residue or a lower alkenyl residue, and

R⁴ hydrogen,

and stereoisomers or mixtures thereof.

21. (New) The composition of claim 6, with the exception that X represents an oxygen atom, R¹ 1-pentyl, R² and R³ hydrogen and R⁴ methyl.

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22. (New) The composition of claim 16, with the exception that X represents an oxygen atom, R¹ 1-pentyl, R² and R³ hydrogen and R⁴ methyl.
23. (New) The method of claim 17, with the exception that X represents an oxygen atom, R¹ 1-pentyl, R² and R³ hydrogen and R⁴ methyl.